



BELLEVILLE - AREA INDEPENDENT

Vol. 32.20 Thursday, May 14, 2026

Serving the Communities of Belleville, Sumpter and Van Buren

FREE

Lori Day, Pete Pitzen to serve as Grand Marshals for parade

Lori Day of Van Buren Township and Pete Pitzen of Belleville will serve as the Grand Marshals of Belleville's Memorial Day parade at 10 a.m. Monday, May 25.

The parade steps off from the Belleville High School parking lot at 10 a.m. and proceeds to Five Points and then up Main Street to Roys.

The Memorial Day ceremony, put on by the Veterans of Foreign Wars and the Polish Legion of American Veterans, follows the parade at the Veterans Memorial on High Street.

Lori Day

Lori Day served in the United States Navy Reserve for 11 years in the Nurse Corps. She entered in 1979 as a Lieutenant JG and received officer training at Pensacola, FL.

She was attached to a fleet hospital unit and drilled regularly at Selfridge Air Force Base, MI and had numerous active-duty assignments, including Naval Station Great Lakes, IL; Bethesda Hospital, MD; Pearl Harbor, Hawaii; and Naples, Italy. She rose to the rank of Lieutenant Commander on

Sept. 1, 1995 and received an honorable discharge on Dec. 18, 2000.

Day said she thoroughly enjoyed her time in the military and feels it is an honor and a privilege to have served our country. She still takes seriously her Oath of Office to support and defend the Constitution of the United States against all enemies, foreign and domestic.

She is an active member of the Polish Legion of American Veterans post in Belleville.

Peter Pitzen

After graduating from high school in 1954, Peter Pitzen enlisted in the Army on Aug. 10, 1954. He was sent to Fort Leonard Wood, MO for basic training and after graduating was sent to Fort Knox, KY. There he took 16 weeks training for radio repair.

After graduating, he was immediately sent

to Bad Hersfeld, Germany with the 3rd, Bn., 14th A/C, performing Border Patrol during the Cold War. That is where he spent the rest of his Army career prior to discharge in July, 1957.

While serving in Germany, Pitzen was the Chief Radio Repairman for the battalion, and after solving an issue with decoding a classified message, he also was assigned as Message Center Chief. When his tour of duty ended in July, 1957, he was discharged as Specialist 2nd Class and returned to the U.S. classified as inactive reserve.

Returning home to Fort Wayne, IN, it didn't take too long before Pitzen met his first wife, got married, and fathered three children. Finding that his finances were running low, a friend talked him into joining the Indiana Air National Guard's 122 Fighter Squadron, so he could earn an income with monthly meetings and a two-week summer camp. Prior to the first meeting in October, 1961, President John F. Kennedy activated the Indiana Air National Guard during the Berlin Crisis and Pitzen

was sent to Chambley Air Base in France.

About four months into his time in France, he was informed of a serious personal

family problem and was given a leave to return to the states. In the U.S. he was reassigned to the 305 Bombardment Wing, at Bunker Hill AFB, Indiana. There he primarily operated B-58 Hustler Bombers and the KC-135 Tankers.

He spent the rest of active duty with the Air Force until Aug. 20, 1962.

After one year of service, President Kennedy de-activated his unit and Pitzen returned to Air National Guard status. Being a single father raising three children, he resigned from the ANG with an honorable discharge as Sgt. E5 and returned to civilian life.

He is an active member of the Veterans of Foreign Wars post in Belleville.



Lori Day



Peter Pitzen

School board considers \$143,961 band tower for BHS football field

By Rosemary K. Oztman
Independent Editor

A 31-foot-tall band tower for the Belleville High School football field was described at Monday's meeting of the Van Buren Public Schools Board of Education.

The project cost of \$143,961 will be up for approval at the May 26 regular meeting. Recommended bidders are Field Towers LLC to supply the tower at \$84,374 and Davenport Brothers to supply the concrete foundation (\$34,350) and install it (\$7,548).

The band tower was part of the 2025 bond program. Consultant Rob Kakoczki of Plante Moran Realpoint, said the band tower was to support the marching band and performing arts program.

"Currently, the district does not have a

dedicated band tower structure, limiting visibility, communication, and operational efficiency during practices, performances and events," according to information provided in the board packet.

"The new band tower will provide a safe, elevated platform for directors and staff to effectively oversee rehearsals and performances while improving coordination and instruction for student participants. The addition of this structure will enhance the overall functionality of the marching band program and support continued student involvement in extracurricular activities," the information said.

Kakoczki said there are four viewing platforms, at 12 and 20 feet and 8 and 16

(continued on page 17)



McBride Middle School math teacher Paige Fordice was presented with the Kiwanis Employee of the Year Award at Monday's meeting of the Van Buren Public Schools Board of Education. From left are Kiwanis Lieutenant Governor Angela Lee, Fordice, and Becky Ross, a member of Kiwanis and director of the school district's Community Education program.



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SECOND FRONT PAGE

Community considers future of its hometown newspaper

Dell Deaton

Contributing Writer

Some 70 people gathered at the downtown library May 7 for “a meeting about keeping your local newspaper.”

It’s a challenge that has two big parts.

The opening *ante* is financial. Doug Peters is a retired attorney and a volunteer consultant to the *Belleville-Area Independent* on this matter. He calculated that “\$135,000 is what we spent last year. I expect that we need at least \$100,000 to \$175,000 [on top of that] to operate at the same level, with new people.”

In May of 2025, Editor Emeritus Rosemary K. Oztman and Advertising Manager Janet Millard filed with the State of Michigan to create the “Belleville Area Newspaper Foundation,” a domestic nonprofit corporation. Bryon Kelley, Elena Manalp, Barbara Miller, Sharon Peters, and Harry Van Gelder have since joined them to begin formation of a requisite oversight board.

Through year-end, they focused on securing 501(c)3 status, which gives access to grant funding. Ownership of the newspaper is transferring to that foundation, with no money having changed hands, making it in effect a donation — which is permitted by law.

As the potential of what that *could* mean begins to unfold, the question of *should* this newspaper even continue at all moved to the center of the formal program on May 7. This second big part of the challenge at-hand was introduced by Elena Manalp in a guest editorial published earlier that day in



the *Independent*.

“This paper brings together our three communities and gives them a shared identity,” she wrote. At the meeting itself, both Belleville Mayor Ken Voight, in absentia, and Van Buren Township Supervisor Kevin McNamara added municipal-voice encouragements to that assertion, each aiming to include Sumpter Township as an indispensable part of the tri-community.

Acting as meeting host, Harry Van Gelder introduced the feature speaker, Hayg Oshagan of Wayne State University.

Building upon what had been shared by elected officials, he cited research into recent closures of local papers in Seattle and Denver. Data pointed to direct correlations with “less people joining the PTA, less neighborhood watches, [and] less active civic organizations,” he said. “A paper isn’t just ‘reporting’ on things, it’s *creating* community engagement.”

On top of that, when newspapers go under, “corporate violations go up, too — by something like 10 to 15%, in just raw numbers of dollars, whether it’s air pollution, or whether it’s corporate malfeasance. Even if the paper is not doing investigative reporting, just the mere presence of a paper in a community makes [businesses] a little bit more careful about doing things the way they *should* be done.”

He framed this as “identity based on place

“The alternative -- when you don’t have a paper -- is ‘group’ identity. ‘I belong to *this* group’ or ‘I belong to *that* group.’ *Group* identity is much more polarizing. Because people *reject* ‘other groups.’ But identity based on where we live *unites* people. We’re all somehow similar, even if our



Dr. Hayg Oshagan

Photos courtesy of Dell Deaton

groups are different -- even if our races are different, even if our genders are different, our economic class is different -- we’re all from *here*.

“You take that away, and people no longer see what the rest of Belleville is doing, and they no longer feel part of a broad community, and people begin to become part of their own ‘in-group.’ That leads to polarization, and we’ve seen [where that leads elsewhere] in America.”

The authority of his assessments was underpinned by the fact that Dr. Oshagan is also founder and chair of New Media Michigan. Its mission is to raise visibility and strengthen ethnic media throughout the Great Lakes State: In other words, constituencies based on *group identities*.

At the close of that presentation, the floor was opened to discussion. From his seat

among those in the audience, Doug Peters offered “to share a little more information” on *Belleville-Area Independent* operations week to week. The “paper has been subsidized by Rosemary [and] I think the transition period is going to be difficult, because the paper has not built-up resources.”

As the meeting wound to a close, several other voices in the room variously asked about the viability of pursuing mandates or protections out of Lansing in support of surviving local media. References were made to subsidies along the lines of the “California Civic Media Program.”

Dr. Oshagan discouraged such wishes, saying it takes a strong political push to accomplish. “Whatever else that could come, this newspaper still has to run like a business.”

First fund-raising event set July 16 for new newspaper foundation

Master of ceremonies at the May 7 meeting to discuss the *Independent* was Harry Van Gelder, who also is a member of the nonprofit Belleville Newspaper Foundation board.

He said the foundation’s first fundraiser will be held on Thursday, July 16, from 6-8 p.m. at the Belleville Yacht Club. He mistakenly said there would be an “open bar,” but that is not so. The bar will be open to those willing to pay.

Janet Millard at the *Independent* has tickets to the fundraiser for \$50 each.

Doug Peters, who has dedicated his legal expertise to help the *Independent* become non-profit, said the transition period will be difficult, but there are donors who have committed to three to five years of donations and that is a good goal.

— Rosemary K. Oztman

VBT denies special land use for car wash, drive-thru eatery

By Rosemary K. Oztman

Independent Editor

The Van Buren Township Board of Trustees unanimously denied special land use permits for El Car Wash and an accompanying drive-thru restaurant at 10525 Belleville Rd., next to Westlake Apartments.

This was at the board’s regular meeting on May 5.

The planning commission had considered the requests for special land use, recommended that the township board deny the requests. Special land use is needed for the project to be built, so the township board’s denial shuts down the development.

Trustee Kevin Martin read the prepared motion on the issue and it took almost 15 minutes to read. Treasurer Sharpy Budd,

who also is the board liaison to the planning commission, seconded the motion to deny, which was unanimously approved.

The reasons for denial were stated in detail in the motion and they are reported verbatim in the official minutes of the meeting which start on page 16 of today’s *Independent*.

El Car Wash attorney Jeff Schlusel said the municipality must approve the special land use. He went through the nine standards in the ordinance, saying the multi-tenant development complies with all the requirements.

Schlusel is a noted land-use and zoning attorney at Carson Fischer law firm in Bloomfield Hills.

In other business in the May 5 meeting, the board:

• Heard a 10-minute presentation by Third

Circuit Court Judge Charise Anderson, who said the court is reaching out to communities in Wayne County to tell them what they do to provide justice. She had given her presentation the night before at the Belleville City Council meeting. Judge Anderson said she is willing to come to speak to a club or a classroom and all they have to do is call her;

• Heard clerk Leon Wright say that Monday was International Fire Fighters Day and he wanted to thank fire fighters for their courage and commitment and he wanted to make sure they are never taken for granted;

• Heard trustee Donald Boynton read a proclamation on Apraxia Awareness, naming May 14 as Apraxia Awareness Day in Van Buren Township. Ashley Shukait of

(continued on page 13)

O P I N I O N S

Editorial:

Please be patient with us as we try to print all the news

We are publishing fewer pages each week these days because our advertising numbers are down. We only print as many pages as we can afford to pay for and so we have fewer pages.

There are stories that have been waiting for many weeks for publication. They are good, newsy stories, but they have to wait because some of the other stories need to be published before events happen to announce them.

We are using our best judgment and putting in all the news that fits. And, there are lots of pictures waiting to be printed, as well.

We are grateful for your patience and understanding. We've got lots of news, but just little space to stuff it in.

Our foundation is working on getting us help in finances from the community and through other grants. We hope to get there soon.

Write a letter to the editor

Sign it and include your phone number.

EXTRA THINGS I KNOW

...By Rosemary K. Otzman

A roomful of supporters of this newspaper turned out last Thursday for our meeting at the Belleville Area District Library. It was good to see so many from our community who understood how important it is to have someone watching government on their behalf.

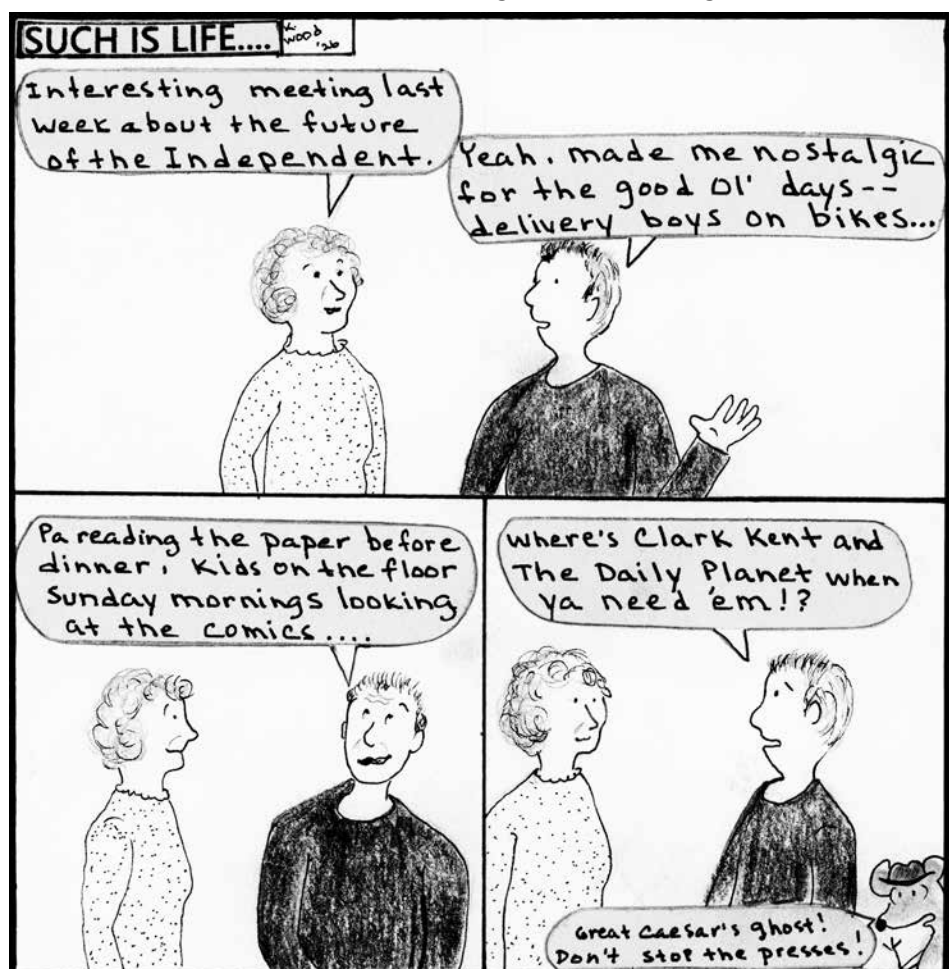
Gary Marshall said at the end of the meeting, "The *Belleville-Area Independent* is the eyes and ears of the community." That's what we've tried to be.

Professor Hayg Oshagan from Wayne State University noted the survival of our paper depends on Belleville residents caring about its newspaper. He said the community had to trust the paper. He had lots of information to share and then he offered to help us.

We were happy to have some of those who chipped in with their hard-earned cash at the beginning of the *Independent's* life to get the newspaper going more than 30 years ago and then stood by over the years to support the paper.

I introduced them: Jeannie Wilder, Lee Herrmann, Bob Stoner, and Barbara Miller. Jeannie noted, "I'm grateful I've been able to deliver the *Independent* for more than 30 years." Each Wednesday, Jeannie is one of our delivery drivers that shows up in the alley and carries off bundles of papers to deliver to business locations.

Many of our original investors have died



over the years and three died in 2025.

We received some complaints about a homeless encampment in the open area between the Presbyterian Church on Belleville Road, behind the post office, and down to the apartments on Quirk Rd. They said there were bonfires at night and people came out and bothered the apartment tenants asking for money.

We asked a police officer, who said there was no one there and then said there were two families near the apartments, but they didn't bother anybody.

We passed our question on to Deputy Police Chief Joshua Monte. He replied: "I happened to be out checking on a potential 5K route for the Education Foundation when I saw your email, so I went over to the apartments to take a look. I located a path along the fence off Lake Villa Drive in the Belle Pointe Apartments that leads east toward Belleville Road. I followed the well-worn dirt path through the woods behind the Presbyterian Church, Post Office, and Urgent Care. The wooded area opens up behind the Urgent Care; however, I saw no evidence of any type of encampment in that area. The path ultimately leads out to Belleville Road."

Also, we got a report of woman's body being found on Belleville Road at I-94 and so, he answered that question, as well: "I'm typically notified by shift command of any suspicious death in the township and had

not heard of anything related to this. I also checked our electronic records and found no reports involving a deceased female. I contacted Chief McNally to see whether he had any knowledge of the fire department responding to a deceased female at I-94 and Belleville Road yesterday [May 6], and he was unaware of any such incident."

We appreciate all the effort involved to answer our readers' questions. Thank you, Chief Monte.

We are advised that Norfolk Southern Railroad will be completing railroad crossing improvements at two locations during the week of May 18, resulting in temporary road closures in both Van Buren Township and Romulus.

On Thursday, May 14, (today) road resurfacing will close the I-94 Service Drive westbound between Belleville and Haggerty roads between 4 and 8 a.m. After 8 a.m. eastbound traffic will be allowed, but westbound traffic will be closed.

Motorists are encouraged to use alternate routes and expect delays in the area during construction.



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**BELLEVILLE-AREA
INDEPENDENT**

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The Belleville-Area Independent is a free, weekly newspaper
published each Thursday in Belleville, MI.

Editor Emeritus:

Rosemary K. Otzman

Advertising Manager:

Janet Millard

Bookkeeper: James Otzman

Production Manager:

James Otzman

Office Manager:

Yvette Gorecki

Editorial Cartoonist:

Kathryn Wood

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- Educate the public and improve sharing local information in the Belleville, MI area community through a free newspaper;
- Promote civic engagement and knowledge among the citizens of the Belleville, MI area;
- Support local schools, churches, and non-profit institutions by raising awareness of their activities in the local community; and
- Provide a newspaper of record for local municipal bodies.

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Deadline for news & ads (see below) is Noon of every Monday. Deadline for ads smaller than 1/2 page is Noon Monday, and all advertising 1/2 page or larger is Noon Friday, with the exception of certain holiday weeks. Classified ad deadline is Noon of every Tuesday.

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Letters

Don't let Memorial Day go by without honoring our Great Country

To: All Belleville Residents:

Belleville Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 4434 wants to send a reminder!

Memorial Day, an American holiday observed on the last Monday of May, (May 25th) honors men and women in the U.S. military.

Free flags are available.

Here's your chance to demonstrate pride in our country and remember our fallen veterans. Once again we are encouraging all residents of Belleville to display a flag at every home.

Business owners, firemen, police officers, set the example. Display your U.S. flag early, and show the rest of Belleville, Van Buren Township, Wayne County, Michigan, and the entire country how proud we are to be a U.S. Citizen, creating a *sense of pride in our neighborhood and our country*.

Thanks to a very generous donation of supplies from manager John Vredevelde of Manns Lumber, and a big labor help from manager Tom Tinsley of Contract Welding, VFW Post 4434 has many free, refurbished flags (11"x16") available. Stop by at 48 S. Biggs and pick up one. Also, we can have your old flags properly disposed; drop them off in the box on the front porch when you pick up a new one.

Our refurbished flags had previously been flown over a veteran's grave; whether a general, sergeant or a private, now you can "Honor" that fallen Veteran by once again displaying his/her flag at your home.

Pete Pitzen, Jr. Vice Commander
VFW Flag Program Chairman

Want to become a member of the VFW?
Call (734) 697-0505 for details.

Letter carriers thank all who help with food drive

To the editor:

The National Association of Letter Carriers (NALC) collected 6,000 pounds of food Saturday, May 9, 2026 for its "Stamp Out Hunger" food drive. We would like to thank

everyone who donated food and volunteered their time to help feed hungry families.

We would like to give a special thanks to the Belleville Area District Library for accepting donations. We also would like to thank Hungry Howie's and Tim Hortons for their donations.

Lastly, we want to tell everyone to support the Belleville *Independent*!

National Association of Letter Carriers

Denton Faith forming special-needs ministry

To the editor:

Denton Faith United Methodist Church, 6020 Denton Rd., Van Buren Township, is in the process of formulating a special-needs ministry to be held on Saturdays.

The idea is to bring the message of Christ to families, making them feel more comfortable in a setting conducive to special-needs families.

If this sounds like something you would like to be a part of here is a link to sign up and receive more information. <https://forms.gle/ZTE7WNU3NSmMB5FC9>. Be Blessed.

Denton Faith United Methodist Church
(734) 483-2276

faithchurch69@gmail.com

www.faithchurchdenton.com

Reader concerned about squirrels eating salt

To the editor:

I wanted to reach out about something I have been noticing around the city that has been bothering me.

People are feeding squirrels something that contains salt, and while it may seem harmless, it is actually not good for them. Products that contain salt can lead to kidney failure, hair loss, and even death.

I have been seeing this happen more often lately, and it is really sad to watch knowing it could be hurting them. I do not think people mean any harm, but they may not realize the impact.

Squirrels are better off eating foods like fruits, vegetables, and unsalted nuts, which are much closer to what they naturally need.

I was hoping this could be brought to people's attention so people can make better choices when feeding wildlife.

Thank you for your time and for listening.

Anonymous, Belleville



I still speak "dog"

All breeds, ages, sizes ... you name it! Could you use some help?

Let me know when you'd like to schedule a 20-minute phone call to discuss what's going on and to brainstorm options (using only positive reinforcement, of course).

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Janet Deaton, Dog Trainer
certified through Canines for Christ
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Obituaries



Denise May Watson

DENISE MAY WATSON

(July 29, 1949 – May 11, 2026)

Denise May Watson, 76, of Sumpter Township, passed away peacefully at home on May 11, 2026, surrounded by her family.

Born on July 29, 1949, to Lysle and Suzanna Collyer, Denise lived a life centered on family, devotion, and simple joys that brought happiness to everyone around her. She shared 58 loving years of marriage with her husband, Vernon Watson, whom she loved with unwavering dedication.

Denise was an avid bowler and a talented crafter. She loved shopping, gardening, and spending time outside and was also a passionate sports enthusiast and a proud supporter of Belleville athletics and community sports.

Above all else, Denise treasured her family. She was a devoted mother to her five children, Kim Dybicki (Rich), Tim Watson (Missy), Veronica Smith (Randy), Jeremy Watson, Sara Gonczyk (Glenn); a proud grandmother to 12 grandchildren, and a loving great-grandmother to six (soon to be seven) great-grandchildren.

She was preceded in death by her son, Tim Watson, and her parents.

Denise will be remembered for her warm heart, selfless spirit, and the deep love she gave so freely to those around her. Her legacy lives on through the family she cherished and the countless lives she touched. She will be deeply missed and forever loved.

Visitation will be held at the Janowiak/Nie Funeral Home, Ypsilanti, MI, on Friday, May 15, 4 p.m.-8 p.m. and Funeral Services will be on Saturday, May 16, at her place of worship, for over 50 years, the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints, 941 S. Grove Rd., Ypsilanti, MI with visitation at 10 a.m. and funeral services beginning at 11 a.m.

JUDITH 'JUDY' ANN KEECH

(April 13, 1949 – April 24, 2026)

Age 77, of Van Buren Township. Former Van Buren Township police officer. Survived by husband John Keech; son Kevin Keech; siblings Nancy Gilbeau, Carolyn Trimner, and Gary Gilbeau; grandchildren; great-grandchildren; nieces and nephews. Private arrangements.

Upcoming Meetings

• Thursday, May 14 – Keystone Academy School Board, 5 p.m. (budget hearing and annual meeting) Also, Belleville Planning Commission, 6:30 p.m.

• Monday, May 18 – Belleville City Council, 6:30 p.m.

• Tuesday, May 19 – Van Buren Township Board of Trustees, 6:30 p.m., with 5 p.m. work/study as needed.

• Tuesday, May 26 – Sumpter Township Board of Trustees, 6 p.m. Also, Van Buren Public Schools Board of Education, 7 p.m., BHS Commons

Corrections:

Belleville fire chief's office would be \$5,000 to build, not \$85,000

In the editor's column on page 4 in the May 7 issue of the *Independent*, we reported that the proposed office for the new Belleville fire chief would cost \$85,000 to construct. Belleville councilwoman Julie Kissel alerted us that figure was wrong and it should be \$5,000. Also, we got the last name of the DPW director wrong a couple of times. It should be Johnson.

In addition, on page 8 we announced the wrong day for the Sumpter Township Fishing Derby for Kids. It will be June 13.

We regret the errors and apologize for printing misinformation.

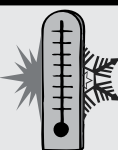
Rosemary K. Otzman, editor

Things to do in the Belleville area...

• Friday, May 15; Saturday, May 16; and Sunday May 17 – The Van Buren Community Players present "Narnia the Musical" at the Van Buren Community Center, 46425 Tyler Rd. Tickets can be purchased at <http://vbtvbc.ludus.com>

ludus.com

• Saturday, May 16 – Join the Hot Rods motorcycle group for a great ride and bike-blessing event. It will start at Love's Travel Stop, 14137 Plank Rd., Milan with kick stands up at 11 a.m. The group will ride along Oakville Waltz to Sumpter Road, north to Faith Community Church, 894 E. Huron River Dr. in Belleville. Sumpter and Belleville police will escort the riders and block roadways. Pastor Doug Valentine is scheduled to do the blessing at noon.



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Obituaries



Doreitha Louise
Armstrong

DOREITHA LOUISE ARMSTRONG

(July 21, 1935 – May 3, 2026)

Doreitha Louise Armstrong, age 90, of Belleville, MI, formerly of Benton Harbor, MI, passed away on Sunday, May 3, 2026, at her home, with her family by her side. She was born July 21, 1935, in Madison, IN, to William Henry & Mary Ette (Tyree) Baird. Mrs. Armstrong graduated from Benton Harbor High School then continued her education, receiving her bachelor's and master's degrees from Eastern Michigan University in early education. She was a member of the Delta Sigma Theta sorority. Doreitha was one of nine charter members of the Inkster, MI chapter of The Charms. The Charms was a social club that mentored young women and awarded scholarships.

Doreitha taught for 30 years at McNair School, and was the director of Charter One Westwood Schools, Dearborn Heights, MI, for over 10 years. Doreitha had a love of learning and always tried to instill that love in her children, and in all young people she met. Doreitha worked as an administrator for Girls Town, an organization to help teenage girls in Belleville, MI. She was very active and enjoyed being on the YMCA board for several years as well. Doreitha loved the Lord and was an active member of the Belleville First United Methodist Church. At church she enjoyed working with the Young Life program and participated in various Bible studies, UMW, and with Leonard, belonged to Come Doubles. Doreitha also served on the Staff Parish Relations committee, working to serve all those employed at her church.

Mrs. Armstrong was a partner in Armstrong's Funland, Belleville, MI, since 1979. She loved to meet and talk to people there. She will be remembered fondly by their patrons, some of whom are now adults. Doreitha enjoyed crocheting, sewing, and traveling. She had a lifelong love of music and was a talented violinist. At sixteen years old Doreitha was a member of the Benton Harbor Symphony.

She is survived by her beloved husband of 67 years, Leonard Douglas Armstrong, Sr.; two beloved sons: Leonard Douglas Armstrong II of Germantown, MD and William Coy Armstrong of Wauwatosa, WI; 4 grandchildren: Brandon Chase Armstrong, and Alyssa Nicole Armstrong, William Anthony Armstrong, Anya Nicole Armstrong; great-grandson, Chase Anthony Armstrong. Doreitha was very proud of her family. Doreitha also leaves a host of nieces, nephews, extended family members, and friends. She was preceded in death by her parents and sister Alma Jean McKinney.

Visitation will be from 3 p.m. to 4 p.m. for the family, and from 4 p.m. to 8 p.m. for everyone else on Friday, May 15, at David C. Brown Funeral Home, 460 E. Huron River Drive, Belleville, MI 48111, (734) 697-4500. Funeral services will be held at 11 a.m. on Saturday, May 16, at David C. Brown Funeral Home. Services will be officiated by Pastor Greg Buchner. Interment will follow in Denton Cemetery, at Denton Road and Michigan Avenue in Van Buren Township, MI.

The repast will be held afterwards at Angel Food Catering, 44850 N. I-94 Service Dr., Belleville,

MI 48111. It will be held from 1 p.m. - 4 p.m. In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to Delta Sigma Theta for their scholarship fund in the memory of Doreitha Armstrong and would be greatly appreciated.



Sandra Caron

SANDRA CARON

Sandra Caron, 72, of Van Buren Township died on May 5, 2026. Sandra is survived by siblings Carole Brown, John Delano, Sherry Zunk, and Cindy Conklin. Loved by friends and family. No service will be held at this time. A celebration of life will be held soon. There will be an announcement on Facebook.



Cathy Ann Sykes

CATHY ANN SYKES

(April 14, 1961 – May 7, 2026)

Cathy Ann (Armatis) Sykes, 65, of Belleville Michigan passed away peacefully on the morning of May 7, 2026. Born on April 14, 1961 in Ypsilanti, MI to Frank and Pauline (Springborn) Armatis of Sumpter Township. Cathy grew up in Belleville, was a Belleville High School graduate in 1979 and married her husband James Thomas Sykes, on July 28, 1979. She was preceded in death by her parents and her brother, Ricky Armatis. She is survived by her husband James T. Sykes; children Jimmy, Melissa (Ryder), Avalon and Branton; her grandchildren Rebecca, James, Onalia, Frank, Harry, June, Arielle, Sebastian, and Ryder. Her great-grandchildren Cassie and Allison; and many nieces and nephews. Cathy was known for her generous heart, her steadfast and fierce commitment to her children, family and friends. She hosted a monthly euchre party for decades and had too many friends to list. Most recently, she spent most of her time with her grandchildren. She married James Thomas Sykes, and together they built a life in their hometown and raised 4 children, James Francis born 9/16/80, Melissa (Ryder) Sykes-Pio born 5/4/82, and adopted Avalon and Branton Sykes. She and Jim shared nearly 47 years of marriage and were true partners in life. She operated her business, CA Sykes Tax Service, est. 1988. She also was a paraprofessional in the late '90s at Elwell Elementary School, and was a beloved troop leader for her Girl Scout troops. She was a foster parent with many children to come through her home, and for decades operated the Sumpter Township goodfellows "No Child without Christmas" drive. She loved garage sales and was a smart shopper. A celebration of life will be held at her new home at a date in the future.

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More Letters

Thank you to sponsors of 16 robotics teams

To the editor:

On behalf of Tiger Robotics Booster Organization and the 16 elementary, middle, and high school FIRST Robotics teams, we want to thank our very generous sponsors and donors for their incredible support.

While their sponsorship lasts for the whole of the 2026 calendar year, and while we will recognize them again during the FIRST LEGO League Challenge and FIRST Tech Challenge seasons in the fall, we feel it is appropriate to say thanks now as the teams finish their 2025-2026 robotics season. We could not have had the successes we had at all levels without this support, whether monetary or in-kind.

It's a long list, but here goes:

First, we thank our "Villians," including Autokinton, Gene Haas Foundation, Snider Electric, and Van Buren Public School District.

Next, we recognize our "Mad Scientists," including Belleville Main / Next Level Carts, Atchinson Ford, Sumpter ACE Hardware, Belleville Area Hotels, Mountain Machine, Sunbelt, The Williams Foundation, and The Jahr Family.

We salute our "Henchman," including Ameresco, Chocktaw-Kaul, Barnett Roofing and Siding, Waste Management, Moving the Mitten Realty, Hungry Howies Pizza, CRG Electric, Intents Events by Margo, SME, The Martin Family, Serta Restokraft, Kona Ice of Western Wayne County / Ann Arbor, Milton's Pharmacy, Friends Fine Floor Covering, Davenport Brothers Construction, Pinter's Flowerland, and Randy Brown Landscape - Terri Morioka - Doug Brown.

Finally, our "Minions," including Garden Fantasy on Main, Kabob Garden, Van Buren Public Schools Education Foundation, Edward Jones - McGovern Wealth Management, Inspirations Hair Salon, Burke Sales and Engineering, Smokin' Buns, Kole Performance Group, Hídalgos Mexican Restaurant, Detlor Insurance, A Design Line, and The Sielski Family.

Thank you again to our wonderful sponsors, and we hope to be blessed with your continued support in the years to come!

Mark Laginess, president
Tiger Robotics Booster Organization

Birthdays

May 5 - Marie Glodowski
May 16 - Michelle Senart
May 19 - James Otzman

Do you or does someone you know have a birthday soon? Call the *Independent* and we will publish it as soon as possible.

'Lost Film and Media' lecture set for May 28

Dear friends of the Belleville Area Museum,
Thank you to everyone who was able to attend the lecture on the 24th, as well as to Andrew Kercher, who gave a wonderful presentation on the history of museums. I learned so much, and I loved hearing that so many of you loved it as well!

Our next lecture will be from our friend at the Wayne Historical Museum, Tyler Moll. He has presented with us here before on Eloise Asylum and Boblo Island. On May 28, from 6-7 p.m., he will be presenting on Lost Film and Media.

If you are interested in joining us, please email us or call us to reserve a seat, as our seating is limited. We will also have pizza available (for free!) at 5:30 p.m. before the lecture. We hope to see you all there.

We also look forward to hosting the students of Edgemont Elementary School during their field trip this month. It is our privilege to share the history of the tri-community with them.

This month, we will also be displaying a new temporary exhibit by the entrance of the museum featuring merchandise from local Belleville businesses over the decades. The exhibit will open on May 18 and be there until the end of June.

I would also like to acknowledge the passing of a beloved member of our museum community, Bob Green. He was a

member of the Western Wayne County Quilt Guild and an avid participant in the annual quilt show we have hosted at the museum for many years. We are sending much love to Bob's family and friends. The quilt show will not be the same without him.

Mary Utz, curator
Belleville Area Museum
Van Buren Charter Township
mutz@vbtmi.gov
(734) 697-1944

Kiwanis donates Tigers tickets to Guiding Harbor

To the editor:

The Belleville Area Kiwanis Club recently made a generous gift to Guiding Harbor, which is a Belleville-based nonprofit dedicated to supporting children in foster care. They gave us two pairs of tickets to Detroit Tigers games!

Guiding Harbor works tirelessly to ensure local kids in foster care have the stability, support, and opportunities they deserve. This donation is a wonderful example of our community coming together for those who need it most.

"This is about our commitment to supporting non-profits in the community," said Gary Marshall of the Belleville Area Kiwanis Club.

We are so grateful to the Kiwanis Club for thinking of the children we serve and for being such a dedicated community partner.

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Interested in making a difference like this? The Belleville Area Kiwanis Club welcomes new members! The club meets twice a month at the Belleville Area District Library:

- 2nd Tuesday of the month at 6 p.m.
- 4th Tuesday of the month at noon

Come check out a meeting and see how you can be part of something great right here in Belleville!

Jennifer Trotter, Guiding Harbor

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Spring Has Sprung!

Belleville DDA considers selling hardware store, is seeking proposals for use

By Rosemary K. Otzman
Independent Editor

The Belleville Downtown Development Authority committee considering what to do about the vacant hardware store at 458 Main St. that the DDA purchased, has decided it should be sold.

At the DDA's regular meeting April 15, committee chairperson Whitney Beaubien reported that the "Wherehouse," as it has been dubbed, has been discussed at length at several committee meetings and the committee is recommending the listing and selling of the property. The committee has reached out to a Realtor who will meet with it next week to get the sale in motion, if the whole DDA board agreed.

The property would be listed at the beginning of May on the general market, Beaubien said. The Realtor has paid for a property appraisal which would be presented at the upcoming committee meeting to help set a price, Beaubien said.

She said the committee decided that continuing to invest DDA funds in this property is not a proper use of its resources. She said removing the monthly expenses for this building can help provide funds for a full-time DDA director.

Beaubien said they could go out for proposals to see how those interested would use the building and what the community wants. She said the DDA is in place to attract retail, restaurants, and other businesses that would keep people coming back and walking Main Street.

DDA vice chairman Chris Donley asked if the DDA could deny buyers based on what they want to do with the property.

Beaubien said they will check with the city attorney. She said they want to put it on the market and evaluate proposals.

Donley asked if the DDA could consider a longterm lease and Beaubien replied, "We want to free up our debt." She said the DDA has a land contract on the property with a balloon coming up in the next couple of years.

She said interim city manager/DDA director Steve Jones now is managing the property, collecting rent from the tenants on Fifth Street, and acting as landlord.

DDA member Phil Miller, who joined the meeting 17 minutes late, said an RFP can tell the DDA what someone wants to do and that

person would do a dog-and-pony show on their plans.

Miller said the DDA could set up ways to manage debt and with a lease agreement the DDA could control use of the property. He said there are advantages to both ways, but at the top is a long-term lease. He said a RFP is not a real estate function. It is administrative, he said.

Beaubien said to Miller, "You're on the committee and you missed two meetings." She said he should have discussed his ideas at the committee level instead of attacking the committee's recommendation at this meeting.

Miller said he had been out of state for two weeks.

DDA treasurer Sabrina Richardson-Williams made a motion to go for a RFP, but there was no second, as discussion continued.

Beaubien said retail and restaurants would bring people into the community on a regular basis. She said she is not opposed to developing with 50% retail and 50% office space. She said they want people walking on the street.

Miller explained details of land contracts and preserving the value of the building.

Richardson-Williams suggested putting the property on the market and getting RFPs to get an idea of what will be done with the property.

She said they should move forward because now all they are doing is talking to each other.

Beaubien said the DDA should work with the city council to implement something in our city for a tax stepup.

Miller said any increase in taxes would come to the DDA.

"We came up with a recommendation," Beaubien repeated.

Miller said there are ways to structure a proposal so the one leasing the property could be the first buyer of choice if the DDA decides to sell.

Beaubien made a motion to allow the committee to do an RFP and then be allowed to list the property.

"I've wasted six weeks on this," Beaubien said. "If you opposed it, you should have been there to talk about it," she said to Miller.

The DDA voted unanimously to go out for RFPs. Chairman John Winter said they could get RFPs and then hold a special meeting to approve listing.

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Library to memorialize Alma Hughes-Grubbs with art scholarship

By Rosemary K. Oztman
Independent Editor

People have donated money to the Belleville Area District Library in memory of the late library board member Alma Hughes-Grubbs, who died Jan. 7.

At the April 14 meeting of the library board, library director Mary Jo Suchy said she consulted with Hughes-Grubbs' family and with Michele Montour, head of the art committee, and is pleased to announce that the library will award an annual art prize in Hughes-Grubbs' memory to a student displaying art at the library.

She said details are still being ironed out for the Alma Hughes-Grubbs Art Award. It will be an ongoing art scholarship to a local student artist.

Suchy said Hughes-Grubbs was an original member of the library's art committee and also sat on the Rotary Scholarship committee as a representative of the community.

"This is a nice way to keep her name alive," said board chairwoman Sharon Peters.

In other business at the hour-long meeting on April 14, the board:

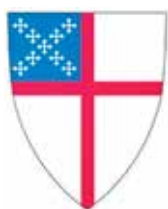
- Heard Suchy report that after questions at the last meeting about possible shared maintenance of the 90-slot parking lot since city hall has moved next door, she got out the copy of the library's agreement with the city on ownership of the shared parking lot. The library owns 59% and the city owns 41%. She presented copies of the agreement to board members and said the agreement calls for the library to be responsible for the cost of routine maintenance such as snow removal. It calls for future capital improvements to be divided up in cost by the percentage of ownership. She said this arrangement seems to be working well. She said there are 35 parking spaces on the opposite side

of their building, so she does not think use of the public lot will be a major issue. There were questions about whether there were enough handicap parking spaces now;

- Learned Suchy received quotes from two elevator companies for elevator maintenance and has engaged with City Elevator of Michigan for service beginning June 1. The low quote was \$1,200 per year to perform quarterly service, much lower than the current company charges. She said the City Elevator representative was very good at explaining things and answering her questions; and

- Was informed the library will be closed on Friday, April 24, for staff in-service training, which includes reviewing best practices, procedures, and safety training.

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- * Taps

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Aurora is a breathtaking dilute tortoiseshell with a gentle spirit and a quiet, thoughtful nature. She may not be the cat calling out for attention the moment you walk by, but that is simply because Aurora likes to take a little time to observe her surroundings before sharing her affection.

Once she feels comfortable, Aurora's sweet personality begins to shine. She melts into gentle pets, enjoys playful moments, and forms deep bonds with the people she trusts. There is something truly special about earning the love of a cat like Aurora.

Aurora is looking for a calm, understanding home where she can settle in at her own pace and blossom into the wonderful companion she is meant to be. Aurora has also experienced some occasional tummy troubles, and we are still working to determine whether they are related to food sensitivities or the stress of shelter life. We are hopeful that the comfort and consistency of a loving home will help her feel her very best. If you're searching for a graceful, tender companion whose love grows stronger with time, Aurora may be the perfect match.

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Saturday 5/16 & Sunday 5/17

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9 - 5 PM Senior Barn
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Strengthen our Community Keep Money In Our Community Builds Real Relationships Supports Dreams and Passion

Contact: rward@hurontownship-mi.gov Huron Charter Township

Lakeside Singers concert set May 17 at Faith Community Church

"Sing Hallelujah!" is the theme of the Belleville Lakeside Singers' concert at 5 p.m., Sunday, May 17, at Faith Community Church, 894 E. Huron River Dr., Belleville.

Director of the Lakeside Singers is Dr. David Stultz (DMA), originally from Chattanooga, TN. He graduated in 2021 with a bachelor's degree in organ performance from the University of Tennessee, Knoxville, under Dr. Edie Johnson and in 2023, he earned a master's in sacred music with Dr. Kola Owolabi at the University of Notre Dame.

Additionally, he studied advanced organ improvisation with Dr. Bálint Karosi. Currently, Dr. Stultz is serving as the director of music and organist at the First Presbyterian Church of Dearborn.

He also is the sub-dean of the Ann Arbor Chapter of the American Guild of Organists (AGO) and the director of the Belleville Lakeside Singers.

Recently, he received his Doctor of Musical Arts degree (DMA) from the University of Michigan in Ann Arbor under Prof. Nicole Keller.

One of his most notable achievements includes winning first prize and the hymn-playing award in the 2021 Southeast Regional AGO Competition for Young Organists. Out of over 30 applicants worldwide and as the only American, he was also selected along with seven other candidates to compete in the 2024 Haarlem, Netherlands International Competition in Organ Improvisation.



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Musings

By Janet Millard
Independent
Advertising Director



Did you notice that Kayrouze Jewelry has moved to Van Buren Plaza? If plans went well, it should have opened in the new location this week. Hated to lose him on Main Street but there sure is better parking in the Plaza, and many great businesses. Take a minute and stop by and welcome him. Can't wait for the new coffee shop to open, too.

Well, some garage sales have started and the spring rummage sales are in full swing this weekend. The Belleville Co-op senior midrise sale starts today from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.; on Friday, May 15, from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.; and ends on Saturday, May 16, from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Stop by 575 Sumpter Rd. on any of these three days for all those treasures! Also always on the weekend after Mother's Day, St. Anthony's rummage sale runs on Friday, May 15, from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. and on Saturday, May 16, from 8 a.m. until 2 p.m. Should be great shopping at both of them. You should be looking at our classified page every week so you don't miss a thing!

This weekend is "Narnia the Musical" with the Van Buren Players in the black box at Van Buren Township Community Center. This is a children's musical so it's important to attend if you are able to support these budding actors. The play starts on Friday, May 15, at 7:30 p.m. and Saturday, May 16, at 7:30 p.m. and ends on Sunday, May 17, with a 2 p.m. matinee. It is quite impressive how the Van Buren Community Players are able to keep bringing play after play to keep our communities entertained.

The Belleville Area Chamber of Commerce has announced two ribbon-cuttings this month. The first was on May 8 for Union Home Mortgage Company owned by one of Belleville's own, Whitney McWilliams Beaubien. Whitney has moved into the building to the east of David C. Brown Funeral Home on East Huron River Drive. Stop by to say welcome and look for the picture in our paper. The second one is for 734 Beauty Lounge which moved out of the city to 990 Sumpter Rd. (fondly known to locals as the Cork & Bottle strip mall). The ribbon cutting will be at 5 p.m. on Thursday, May 28. Show up for the photo shoot or at any time to just say welcome.

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SATURDAY MAY 30, 2026
4:00 PM - 11:00 PM
(COMPLETE EVENT)
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9961 Beck Rd.
Belleville, MI 48111

EUCHRE DETAILS

- Check-In: Starts 6:00 PM
- First Game: Starts: 6:30 PM
- Games End: 9:00 PM
- \$40 suggested donation

Join Euchre anytime!
No need to be here for the first game.

PORK CHOP DINNER
Includes Potatoes & Salad
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\$20

RAFFLE BASKETS & GIFT CARDS
Great Prizes!
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VBT

(continued from page 3)

Van Buren Township stood at the podium with her son who suffers from apraxia;

- Approved a resolution for the long-term maintenance of storm water management at Zippy Auto Wash, 11600 Belleville Rd.;

- Approved an agreement with the Michigan Department of Transportation for the completion of safety improvements to the intersection of Belleville and Quirk roads. This will be with up to \$750,000 of EARMARKED funds which will be reimbursed through State Rep. Reggie

Miller;

- Approved recognizing Michigan Against Atomic Waste as a nonprofit operating within the township to obtain a charitable gaming license. The board's approval was requested by township resident Chris Donley;

- Approved the personal services agreements with Garret Brice as water and sewer superintendent, Brooklyn Little as desktop support specialist, and Breanna Shipley as senior programmer. Board members then shook hands with the new employees all and then posed for a picture with them and their family members;

- Approved The Mannik & Smith Group, Inc. of Canton Township as the contractor for the 2027-31 Parks and Recreation Master Plan Update in the amount of \$25,000. A current master plan is required for many of the grants sought. Township supervisor Kevin McNamara said the township has had \$10 million to \$20 million in grants for its parks so far;

- Approved Fishbeck to perform CCTV Sanitary Sewer Inspection Design and Administration services of \$146,400 for the last three years of this project, to finish up the rest of the township south of the I-94 Service Drive from Rawsonville to Hannan roads. The township will go out for bids for the project to find out the condition of the sanitary sewers;

- In a joint motion approved a contract with PLM Lake & Land Management Corp. to perform an aquatic weed treatment on Belleville Lake for \$56,450 and a contract with Aqua-Weed Control to perform a phosphorus inactivation treatment on Belleville Lake for \$14,500. Supervisor McNamara said it takes 30 days to get a permit and they want the first treatment in June. He said weeds are taking over the lake and the lake defines the township. He said the township had contracted a study last fall with Progressive AE and these two contractors were recommended for the work. He said 75 lakefront owners had a meeting to discuss the problem. He said there has to be a sustainable program that can't stop. He said a lifetime solution has to be put in place to improve the lake;

- Approved the second reading and adoption of a zoning ordinance amendment to change the maximum cul-de-sac length in site condominium developments to improve safety. The change would make it consistent with the subdivision ordinance;

- Approved the second reading and adoption of a zoning ordinance amendment to change zoning regulations pertaining to car wash developments. A moratorium on car washes was put in place last fall and this tighter ordinance written;

- Approved the first reading of an ordinance to update the township's Ypsilanti Community Utilities Authority Sanitary Sewer Rules per new requirements with YCUA. If anything industrial comes on line in that area there are parameters for toxic screening;

- Approved the first reading of a zoning ordinance amendment to allow the administration to approve temporary land use approvals for firework tents that have been coming each year without problems.

This would allow the fireworks companies to not have to come before the planning commission each year for the same request;

- Heard Elizabeth Renaud, director of community services, report that the recreation department received a grant for \$1,086 from the National Wild Turkey Federation to buy new archery equipment. This includes three new bows and targets. She said summer programs are in place now and archery programs will begin again in September; and

- Heard deputy supervisor Dan Selman read into the record a statement sent online against the proposed data center. The writer asked for it to be read at the April 15 meeting, but since that meeting had been canceled, Selman read it at the May 5 meeting. It was signed by Jennifer Cox, 44970 Bemis Rd, who had concerns on noise, water, and electricity.

Sumpter Township precinct part of Huron School District vote

Voters in the Huron School District approved a \$65,830,000 bond proposal in a special election on Tuesday, May 5.

Wayne County voters approved the 30-year proposal by 53.4% (with 1,302 yes votes), according to unofficial results. There were 1,134 no votes, with a total of 2436 votes cast in Wayne County.

A small portion of the Huron district falls in Monroe County. The proposal failed in Monroe County, with 3 voters approving and 8 rejecting it.

One precinct in Sumpter Township is in the Huron School District and the 111 who voted May 5 turned down the bond proposal with 61 no votes (54.95%). There were 50 yes votes (45.05%).

The bond proceeds from 2.17 mills a year starting in 2026 are for remodeling, including security improvements and re-equipping school buildings.

The school district serves Huron Township and portions of Romulus, Flat Rock, Brownstown Township, Sumpter Township and Van Buren Township along with that small area in Monroe County.

Also on the May 5 ballot was the proposed Monroe County Intermediate School District Regional Enhancement Millage Renewal Proposal. Voters in Sumpter Township's precinct in Airport School District turned it down 26-20.

But it passed in Monroe County with 10,334 yes votes and 6,920 no votes, according to unofficial results. The 0.9866 mill tax will be levied for a period of five years, 2027-31.



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RUMMAGE SALE Friday May 15, 8 a.m.-4 p.m. Saturday May 16, 8a.m.-2 p.m. St. Anthony Catholic Church 409 W. Columbia Ave. Belleville. 05/14

BELLEVILLE CO-OP Annual rummage sale. 575 Sumpter Rd. Thursday May 14 & Friday May 15, 9a.m.-5 p.m. Saturday May 16, 9 a.m. - 3 p.m. 05/14

GARAGE/YARD SALE

ESTATE SALE - 1277 Pageant, Ypsilanti. Antiques, vintage, princess house, tools, china, camping, fishing, sewing machines, typewriters. May 14 - 17, 9a.m.-6 p.m. 05/14

MULTI-FAMILY Garage sale. 1285 Pageant, Ypsilanti. May 14-17, 9a.m.-6 p.m. Something for everyone. 05/14

YARD SALE - 22115 Haggerty Rd., Sumpter Twp., May 15 & 16, 10a.m.-5 p.m. Something for everyone. 05/14

COMMUNITY-WIDE Garage sale. Huron Charter Township 48164. 30+ participating. May 16 & 17, 9a.m.-5p.m. Complete list on FB or website. 05/14

4-FAMILY YARD SALE. Furniture & other misc. 39236 Wade Rd. Romulus. Friday, May 15, Saturday, May 16 & Sunday, May 17, 9a.m.-5p.m. 05/14

YARD SALE - Friday, Saturday and Sunday, May 15, 16, 17, 9a.m.-5p.m., 45545 Bemis Rd., Belleville. 05/14

LIVING ESTATE SALE - Saturday & Sunday, May 16 & 17, 9a.m.-5p.m. 18001 Lohr Rd., Belleville. 05/14

CRYSTAL POND CONDOMINIUMS (off Bunton Road between Textile & Martz) Community Yard Sale, Memorial Day Weekend. Friday May 22, 5p.m.-8 p.m. Saturday May 23 & Sunday May 24, 8a.m.-5p.m. 05/21

1184 GEORGINA DRIVE., Ypsilanti. 2 carports & basement full. All summer on Saturday and Sunday. From 10 a.m. - 5 p.m. Saturday: 11a.m.-5p.m. Sunday. Rain or shine. TFN

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City of Belleville Public Notice



JOB POSTING

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Job description

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Location: Belleville, MI

Job Type: Part-Time Regular

Department: Department of Public Works

Division: Cemetery

Opening Date: 5/4/26

General Description

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Note: This is a part-time, 30 hours per week position.

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1. Performs routine grounds maintenance including lawn mowing, weed whipping, grave repair, lawn repair, maintaining landscape, pruning trees and shrubs and trash removal.
2. Assist with funeral preparations.
3. Mixes cement and install burial markers.
4. Assists with digging foundations.
5. Other duties as assigned.

Required Minimum Qualifications/Desirable Qualifications

- High School Diploma or GED equivalent.
- State of Michigan driver's license with acceptable driving record.
- Basic proficiency with office computers and related software.
- Previous experience with ground's maintenance or light equipment operation preferred.

Supplemental Information

PHYSICAL AND WORK ENVIRONMENT

The physical and work environment characteristics described in this

description are representative of those an employee encounters while performing the essential functions of this job. Reasonable accommodation may be made to enable individuals with disabilities to perform the essential functions or as otherwise required by law. Requests for reasonable accommodation should be submitted to the Human Resources Department.

- This work requires occasional exertion of up to 75 pounds of force; work regularly requires sitting, frequently requires standing, speaking or hearing, repetitive motions and occasionally requires walking, stooping, kneeling, crouching or crawling and reaching with hands and arms.
- Work has standard vision requirements.
- Vocal communication is required for expressing or exchanging ideas by means of spoken words.
- Hearing is required to perceive information at normal spoken word levels.
- Work requires preparing and analyzing written or computer data and observing general surroundings and activities.
- Work is performed in city buildings and outside.
- Exposure includes working around moving mechanical parts.
- Workers are exposed to seasonal extreme, outside weather conditions.

Examination Information:

Oral Evaluation of Qualifications: To evaluate technical knowledge, decision-making/problem solving skills, employment history, communication skills, and other factors related to successful performance in this position. **Note:** The above examination information may be modified for this or future postings.

Application Process:

Please complete an on-line application, available on the City's website at bellevilleonthelake.com and is open until filled.

We value diversity, equity and inclusion as a foundation for innovation and seek candidates who represent a variety of backgrounds and perspectives.

Charter Township of Van Buren Public Notice

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF VAN BUREN BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING MINUTES -- May 5, 2026

Supervisor McNamara called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. in the Board Room. Present: Supervisor McNamara, Treasurer Budd, Clerk Wright, Trustee Kelley, Trustee Boynton, Trustee Martin, and Trustee Frazier. Others in attendance: Deputy Supervisor Selman, Recording Assistant Beaudry, Director of Recreation Gerhart, HR Director Sumpter, DDA Director Coburn, Director of Community Services Renaud, Deputy Director of Community Services Dohring, Director of Water and Sewer Lawrence, Director of Public Services Luckett, Director of Municipal Services Akers, IT Director Barbaza and an audience of 21.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY OF THE AGENDA: Supervisor McNamara outlined the items appearing on the agenda.

ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA: Kelley moved, Budd seconded to approve the agenda. Motion Carried.

ADOPTION OF THE CONSENT AGENDA: Kelley moved, Boynton seconded to approve the Consent Agenda: Board Meeting Minutes of April 7, 2026, Prepaid List of April 9, 2026, Prepaid List of April 16, 2026, Voucher List of April 21, 2026, Prepaid List of April 23, 2026, Prepaid List of April 30, 2026, Voucher List of May 5, 2026, Approval of Resolution 2026-07, a resolution for the Long-Term Maintenance of storm water management system at Zippy Auto Wash, 11600 Belleville Road, Approval of Resolution 2026-12: Agreement between MDOT and Van Buren Township (Contract No: 26-5163) for the completion of safety improvements at Belleville Road and Quirk Road, Approval of Resolution 2026-13: a resolution to recognize Michigan Against Atomic Waste as a nonprofit operating within the Township to obtain a charitable gaming license, and Approval of the Personal Services Agreements for Garret Brice, Brooklyn Little, and Breanna Shipley. Motion Carried.

PUBLIC HEARING: None

C O R R E S P O N D E N C E / ANNOUNCEMENTS/PRESENTATIONS: The Clerk recognized Firefighter Appreciation Day that took place on May 4th, Judge Anderson from the 3rd Circuit Court gave a presentation educating the public on the role the 3rd Circuit Court plays in the community, and a proclamation was presented recognizing Childhood Apraxia Awareness Day.

PUBLIC COMMENT (Unfinished and New Business): None.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS: None.

NEW BUSINESS:

Martin moved, Budd seconded to deny application 25-025 for the special land use request for El Car Wash to construct a drive through carwash at 10525 Belleville Road based on the following findings:

A. The analysis and specific concerns provided in the review letters from McKenna & Associates dated March 10, 2026, Fishbeck dated March 10, 2026, and the Van Buren Township Fire Department dated March 9, 2026.

B. Noting the feedback and concerns received during the public hearing from residents, members of the business community, and adjacent land owners.

C. The Board of Trustees finds that the application does not comply with section 12.306 of the Van Buren Township Zoning Ordinance which are the standards for granting special approval.

D. The Board of Trustees finds that the requested use of a car wash in an already served area where the use could create significant adverse effects in that location including traffic congestion, water runoff in the public streets, noises that are incompatible with adjacent residential areas.

E. The Board of Trustees finds the multiple drive-through nature of their proposal is not intended to be pedestrian friendly, its not conforming to the purposes of the Belleville Road Overlay District or the Master Plan and requesting special use for two (2) separate activities in the same facility, a car wash and a drive-through restaurant, either of which could be detrimental to other permitted land uses when considered alone are far more likely to give rise to need problems with respect to their impact on neighboring properties when considered together.

F. The Board specifically incorporates and adopts, and will attach to this Motion, its Statement of Findings and Conclusions, which provides as follows:

This Statement of Findings and Conclusions is submitted for consideration and possible adoption by the Charter Township of Van Buren Township Board of Trustees ("Board") regarding Application VBT-25-025 (Special Land Use Review #3) by El Car Wash MI Belleville LLC ("Applicant") for 10525, 10501, and 10401 Belleville Road (the "Property"). The Property is within the Belleville Road Overlay District ("BROD") and is zoned C-1 (General Business District).

The Applicant requests special land use ("SLU") approval for (i) an express (automatic) exterior car wash with self-serve vacuums and (ii) a commercial building with one retail and two restaurant tenant spaces, including one drive-through, as shown on the revised site plan dated February 18, 2026.

Following the April 8, 2026 public hearing, the Planning Commission voted to recommend denial based on issues identified in the McKenna & Associates review letter dated March 10, 2026, with consideration of the Fishbeck letter dated March 10, 2026, the Van Buren Township Fire Department letter dated March 9, 2026, and public comments, and found the request did not satisfy the SLU standards in Section 12.306 of the Zoning Ordinance.

The Record Considered

- Applicant's SLU application materials for VBT-25-025, including the revised site plan dated February 18, 2026.

- McKenna & Associates "Special Land Use Review #3" letter to the Planning Commission dated March 10, 2026 (the "McKenna Letter"), including references to the Fleis & Vandenbrink traffic study and the Applicant's market study.

- Fishbeck letter dated March 10, 2026.

- Van Buren Township Fire Department letter dated March 9, 2026.

- Planning Commission proceedings and public input from the April 8, 2026 hearing, including the motion recommending denial (as reflected in the April 29, 2026 memorandum from Ron Akers to the Board).

The Applicable Standards

Section 3.111(C) of the Van Buren Township Zoning Ordinance permits Auto Wash Establishments and drive-through restaurants as *special land uses* in the C-1 (General Business) District. Section 12.306 of the Zoning Ordinance sets forth the criteria that must be satisfied for approval of a special land use. In addition, because the Property is within the

Belleville Road Overlay District ("BROD"), the Board considers whether the proposed use and site design are consistent with the BROD's purpose and the Township's planning policies as referenced in the McKenna Letter (including the Master Plan Future Land Use designation of the Belleville Road corridor as "Gateway Commercial").

The Findings of Fact

A. Socially and economically desirable land use

The Board finds the proposal concentrates multiple auto-oriented, high-traffic uses on an approximately 3.13-acre site (car wash, vacuums, and a building with one retail and two restaurant tenant spaces, including a drive-through). McKenna indicates this intensity would generate traffic substantially greater than other BROD sites of comparable size, and the record does not provide competent, material evidence demonstrating that resulting circulation and economic impacts would promote a socially and economically desirable land use for adjacent properties or the Township. (McKenna Letter, Criterion 1.)

The Board further finds the public benefit of an additional car wash at this location is not established because several auto wash facilities already operate within approximately three miles. McKenna also identifies deficiencies in the Applicant's market study assumptions regarding "convenience" relative to nearby competitors. (McKenna Letter, Criterion 1.)

B. Necessity for public convenience at that location

The Board finds the record does not show the car wash use is necessary for public convenience at this location. McKenna identifies an existing car wash less than one-half mile north of the Property and another new facility approximately three-quarters of a mile south, with additional modern facilities nearby. (McKenna Letter, Criterion 2.) The Applicant has not provided persuasive, location-specific evidence of unmet demand; therefore, Criterion 2 is not satisfied.

C. Compatibility with adjacent uses of land

The Board finds that, while the Belleville Road corridor includes commercial and service uses, the proposed site configuration raises compatibility concerns because it clusters multiple auto-oriented, traffic-heavy uses with shared access drives. (McKenna Letter, Criterion 3.) The car wash is immediately south of Westlake Apartments and the site is near residentially zoned property to the east, increasing the potential for conflicts related to traffic circulation, noise, and operational effects. (McKenna Letter, Criteria 4 and 6; Planning Commission motion.)

D. Protection of public health, safety, and welfare

Traffic and safety. The Board finds the traffic study referenced in the McKenna Letter indicates the site drive would operate at LOS D or better during certain peak hours, except the left turn out operating at LOS E during the PM peak. (McKenna Letter, Criterion 1.) The study recommends a right-turn lane along northbound Belleville Road at the site drive, and the record does not clearly establish what operational restrictions or roadway improvements would be required to avoid unsafe or congested conditions. The Planning Commission motion also identifies potential for significant adverse traffic effects, including congestion.

Noise, operational impacts, and runoff. The Board finds the Applicant's assertion that equipment and vacuum stations will be "low-noise" is not supported by noise-generation

information in the record, and the wash tunnel would be open on both ends during operation. (McKenna Letter, Criteria 4 and 6.) The Planning Commission motion identifies incompatible noise impacts on adjacent residential areas and the pedestrian environment, and concerns regarding water runoff in public streets. The record does not demonstrate the use is designed and proposed to be operated to protect public health, safety, and welfare.

E. No injury to other property in the neighborhood

The Board finds the BROD is intended to support a mix of businesses in a pedestrian-friendly environment. (McKenna Letter, Criterion 6.) The intensity of uses on the Property, unresolved traffic questions, and the lack of supporting noise documentation create a reasonable likelihood of adverse impacts on nearby properties and the corridor. (McKenna Letter, Criteria 4 and 6; Planning Commission motion.) McKenna further references DDA data showing heavy traffic and accident history in the BROD and calls for these issues to be addressed; the Board finds they remain inadequately addressed. (McKenna Letter, Criterion 6.)

F. Natural environment and conservation of natural resources

The Board finds McKenna identifies substantial tree removal (including regulated trees) and discrepancies in the landscape plan regarding replacement counts and calculations. (McKenna Letter, Criterion 7.) The record does not clearly demonstrate compliance with applicable tree replacement expectations; therefore, Criterion 7 is not satisfied.

G. Harmony with zoning district purposes, BROD, and applicable regulations

The Board finds that, although a drive-through restaurant and auto wash are eligible for SLU approval in the C-1 District, the Master Plan designates the Belleville Road corridor as "Gateway Commercial," intended for retail and office uses. (McKenna Letter, Criterion 8, citing Master Plan p. 57.) The proposal's auto-centric components and clustering of high-traffic uses are inconsistent with the BROD's pedestrian-oriented intent and raise site design, traffic, and circulation concerns identified in the McKenna Letter. (McKenna Letter, Criteria 1, 3, 6, and 8; Planning Commission motion.)

Conclusions and Decision

Based on the foregoing Findings of Fact and the record identified above, the Board concludes the Applicant has not demonstrated compliance with the special land use standards in Section 12.306 of the Zoning Ordinance. The Board further concludes that denial of the SLU request is a reasonable and lawful exercise of the Township's zoning authority and police power to protect the public health, safety, and welfare and to implement the Township's planning policies for the Belleville Road corridor and the BROD. Motion Carried.

Kelley moved, Wright seconded to approve The Mannik & Smith Group, Inc. as the contractor for the 2027-2031 Parks & Recreation Master Plan Update in the amount of \$25,200 to be paid out of account 101-755-971-000. Motion Carried.

Fishbeck moved, Budd seconded to approve Fishbeck to perform CCTV Sanitary Sewer Inspection Design and Administration Services. Motion Carried.

Kelley moved, Wright seconded to approve awarding PLM Lake & Land Management

(continued on page 17)

School Board

(continued from page 1)

feet. He said they need 20-30 weeks of lead time to get the tower after it is approved by the board, which will make it available in late fall or early winter. It will be on the 50-yard line, he said.

In other business at Monday's one-hour-and-25-minute meeting, the board:

- Was advised the non-affiliated salaries

information for about 50 employees not covered as part of a union contract will be put into a chart as required and be a part of the upcoming budget for approval. School Supt. Pete Kudlak said most are getting \$2,000 raises, but four have earned \$4,000 raises and one hourly worker will get a \$1.50 raise instead of the 75 cents raise the other hourly workers are getting. All the details will be in the Steps 1-10 chart at the next meeting;

- Discussed the general fund budget for Wayne RESA that the board must vote on prior to June 1;

- Heard an update by Becky Ross on the Community Education program she was hired last August to start in the district;

- Heard a presentation by principal Melissa Petty on programs at the Early Childhood Center;

- Heard a presentation by instructional support specialist Renea Kurek on the new Teachers Curriculum Institute Social Studies program being recommended for students in grades 5-8. Cost of the five-year agreement is about \$147,709. It will be voted on by the board at its next meeting;

- Approved attendance at a summer camp in Van Buren State Park in South Haven July 20-23 for BHS cross country athletes. Cost is \$150 per athlete plus \$20 brought to camp to purchase lunch on the way home;

- Approved the retirement of BHS secretary Marcia Kennedy after 28 years of service; and the resignations of Rawsonville paraprofessional Precious Harris and Edgemont paraprofessional Kelly Murphy, both after less than a year of service, and the resignation of bus driver Lakita Holton after a year of service;

- Approved the employment of Shannon Richards as Rawsonville paraprofessional as of April 30; and

- Approved the resignation of Kristine Cagney, an interventionist at Tyler, after 21 years of service.

Absent from the meeting were board president Amy Pearce and trustee Victor DeLibera.

Keystone Academy assigned new NHA representative

By Rosemary K. Otzman
Independent Editor

At the April 9 regular meeting of Keystone Academy, DeAmo Murphy took over as the new representative from National Heritage Academy to oversee Keystone, the charter school in Sumpter Township that it manages.

Murphy replaces Andrew Roth, who has been the NHA representative for nine years. He was present for his last meeting and sat in the audience. He explained he has been reassigned by NHA to two schools in Wisconsin.

He said he will not be moving from his Michigan home, but will commute to Wisconsin meetings.

Roth gave a farewell statement to the board saying, "There will never be another Keystone" because of its "stratosphere position in school excellence." He pointed out principal Jorvanna Drain was an excellent principal and the board was collaborative and strong.

The board wished him well in his new assignment. Murphy said he will try to fill Roth's former position and needs the help of the board for that.

In other business at the half-hour Keystone board of directors meeting on April 9, the board:

- Ratified the 2025-26 Audit Letter of Engagement with Alan C. Young and Associates with a gross fee not expected to exceed \$8,350;

- Reviewed the annual conflict of interest disclosure form board members are required by charter-authorizer Bay Mills Community College to fill out and sign; and

- Discussed NHA's renewal of the food service contract for the 2026-27 school year with SFE (Southwest Foodservice Excellence). NHA said SFE has provided high-quality nutritious meals to the students and based on their continued performance and reliability the contract is being renewed.

Charter Township of Van Buren Public Notice

(continued from page 16)

Corp. a contract to perform an aquatic weed treatment on Belleville Lake in the amount of \$56,450 and to approve awarding Aqua-Weed Control a contract to perform phosphorus inactivation treatment on Belleville Lake in an amount of \$14,500. Motions Carried.

Budd moved, Boynton seconded to approve the second reading of Ordinance 04-07-26(1) which is a zoning ordinance amendment to change the maximum cul-de-sac length in site condominium developments. Roll Call Vote. Yeas: Frazier, Kelley, Boynton, Martin, Budd, Wright, and McNamara. Nays: None. Absent/Excused: None. Motion Carried.

Budd, moved, Boynton seconded to approve the second reading of Ordinance 04-07-26(2) which is a zoning ordinance amendment to change the zoning regulations pertaining to car wash developments. Roll Call Vote. Yeas: Frazier, Kelley, Boynton, Martin, Budd, Wright, and McNamara. Nays: None. Absent/Excused: None. Motion Carried.

Boynton moved, Wright seconded to approve the first reading of Ordinance 05-05-26(1)

which is an ordinance to update our YCUA Sanitary Sewer Rules per the requirements of our agreement with YCUA. Motion Carried.

Martin moved, Budd seconded to approve the first reading of Ordinance 05-05-26(2) which is an amendment to the Van Buren Township Zoning Ordinance regarding Temporary Land Use Approvals for Firework Tents. Motion Carried.

REPORTS: None.

PUBLIC COMMENT ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS: A comment was submitted via email and read regarding the proposed data center and Director Renaud informed the board of a grant the Community Center received to purchase archery equipment from the National Wild Turkey Foundation.

BOARD COMMENT ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS:

ADJOURNMENT: Boynton moved, Martin seconded to adjourn the meeting at 7:19 p.m. Motion Carried.

Leon Wright, Township Clerk

Kevin McNamara, Supervisor

Publish: May 14, 2026



City of Belleville Public Notice



Hillside Cemetery Advisory Committee REQUEST FOR VOLUNTEERS

Flag Placement for Memorial Day 2026

9 a.m. on Saturday, May 16th

(Rain date: May 23rd)

The Cemetery Advisory Committee will be placing American Flags on the graves of all veterans who are buried at Hillside Cemetery on Denton Road.

We will begin placing flags on Saturday, May 16th at 9:00 a.m. and need volunteers to help. Each Cemetery section takes only about one hour of work.

Should you wish to volunteer, contact the City Clerk. If you would like to work in a specific section, the Clerk's office must be contacted, or that section may not be guaranteed.

Please consider this small sacrifice of time and join us to honor our veterans who fought to keep us free.

Briana Papin
City Clerk/Treasurer
(734) 697-9323 ext. 7010
clerk@belleville.mi.us



PUBLISHER'S NOTICE:

All real estate advertising in this newspaper is subject to the Fair Housing Act which makes it illegal to advertise "any preference, limitation or discrimination based on race, color, religion, sex, handicap, familial status or national origin, or an intention, to make any such preference, limitation or discrimination." Familial status includes children under the age of 18 living with parents or legal custodians, pregnant women and people securing custody of children under 18.

This newspaper will not knowingly accept any advertising for real estate which is in violation of the law. Our readers are hereby informed that all dwellings advertised in this newspaper are available on an equal opportunity basis. To complain of discrimination call HUD toll-free at 1-800-669-9777. The toll-free telephone number for the hearing impaired is 1-800-927-9275.



Notice to Advertisers:

The *Belleville-Area Independent* will not be liable for failure to publish an ad as requested or for more than one incorrect insertion of an advertisement. In the event of any error or omission in printing or publication of an advertisement, you must notify us within five days of publication or on the date of insertion, if an ad is scheduled as part of a package, so there is time to correct subsequent publications. The *Independent's* liability shall be limited to an adjustment for the cost of the space occupied by the error with a maximum liability being cancellation of the cost of the first incorrect advertisement or republication of the corrected advertisement. Under no circumstances shall the *Independent* be liable for consequential damages of any kind.

Notice to Advertisers – private gun sales:

It is the responsibility of both the classified seller and buyer to ensure they understand all laws applicable to private gun sales in Michigan. The *Belleville-Area Independent* is not responsible for the legal compliance of classified buyers and sellers.

PUBLISH: May 7 and May 14, 2026

Van Buren Township Police Dispatch Log

There were 331 dispatch calls reported by Van Buren Township police this week including the following.

Sunday, May 3:

0031 – civil matter, Belleville Rd.
0056 – suspicious person/vehicle/circumstance, Beckley Rd.
0512 – animal complaint, Ash Dr.
0844 – assist fire dept., S. I-94 Service Dr.
1003 – suspicious person/vehicle/circumstance, Belleville Rd.
1229 – suspicious person/vehicle/circumstance, S. I-94 Service Dr.
1230 – disorderly, Parkwood Dr.
xxxx – warrant arrest, S. I-94 Service Dr.
xxxx – animal complaint, W. Columbia Ave./High
1301 – unauthorized driving away of auto, S. I-94 Service Dr.
1307 – welfare check, Parkwood Dr.
1317 – civil matter, Rose
1329 – intrusion alarm, Belleville Rd.
1346 – found property/child, N. Ponderosa Trl.
1418 – unattended death, Hannan Rd.
1521 – noise complaint, Meadows Cir.
1711 – 911 welfare check, S. Sadie Ln.
1730 – disorderly, Belleville Rd.
1801 – suicidal person, S. I-94 Service Dr.
1841 – malicious destruction of property, Belleville Rd.
2148 – background investigation, Tyler Rd.
2338 – suspicious person/vehicle/circumstance, Belleville Rd.

Monday, May 4:

0037 – suspicious person/vehicle/circumstance, N. I-94 Service Dr.
0122 – suspicious person/vehicle/circumstance, Haggerty Rd./W. I-94
0211 – fight, Chandler Dr.
0235 – assist citizen, E. Huron River Dr.
0333 – threat, S. Ponderosa Trl.
0415 – road hazard, Ecorse Rd./Morton Taylor Rd.
0748 – suspicious person/vehicle/circumstance, Belleville Rd.
0840 – mental subject, Outer Dr.
0912 – retail fraud, Belleville Rd.
0903 – animal complaint, Tyler Rd.
1158 – hospice death, S. I-94 Service Dr.
1048 – larceny, McKinley St.
1150 – misc. complaint, Savage Rd.
1233 – welfare check, N. I-94 Service Dr.
1227 – welfare check, N. I-94 Service Dr.
1241 – property damage accident, Tyler/Haggerty
1323 – vehicle lockout, Coca-Cola Dr.
1320 – welfare check, Belleville Rd.
1412 – welfare check, W. Huron River Dr.
1352 – parking complaint, Chester Ct.
1421 – intrusion alarm, Parkwood Dr.
1547 – lost property/child, McBride Ave.
1606 – civil matter, Cross St.
1616 – parking complaint, Ecorse Rd.
1626 – ordinance violation -- all 7300 MICR codes, McBride Ave./Haggerty Rd.
1643 – civil matter, Cross St.
1643 – assist fire dept., Savage Rd./Sheldon Rd.
1655 – property damage accident, Belleville Rd. / Westlake Cir.
1813 – suspicious person/vehicle/circumstance, Evelyn Ct.
1853 – warrant arrest, 5 Mile Rd.
1910 – 911 welfare check, Van Born Rd.
1925 – 911 welfare check, Rogers Ave.
1930 – suspicious person/vehicle/circumstance, Reene Dr./Kahla Dr.
1942 – 911 welfare check, Doree Ave.
2027 – welfare check, S. I-94 Service Dr.
2316 – welfare check, Lake Villa Dr.
2327 – noise complaint, E. Walden Dr.

Tuesday, May 5:

0044 – civil matter, Oak Ln.
0509 – breaking & entering, Richard Run Dr.
0847 – animal complaint, West Walden/Celestine
1006 – suspicious person/vehicle/circumstance, Harbor Ln.
1118 – road hazard, Belleville Rd. / N. I-94 Service Dr.
1226 – suspicious person/vehicle/circumstance, Fret Rd.
xxxx – lost property/child, Belleville Rd.
1313 – ordinance violation – all 7300 MICR codes,

Jeremy Rd.
1314 – ordinance violation – all 7300 MICR codes, Rayna Ct.
1327 – ordinance violation – all 7300 MICR codes, Bradley Dr.
1328 – ordinance violation – all 7300 MICR codes, Jeremy
1338 – ordinance violation – all 7300 MICR codes, Bradley Dr.
1344 – ordinance violation – all 7300 MICR codes, Stratford Dr./Churchill Dr.
1346 – property damage accident, Fret Rd.
1408 – PPO violation, N. I-94 Service Dr.
1353 – ordinance violation – all 7300 MICR codes, Stratford/Churchill
1420 – breaking & entering, Buchanan St.
1442 – intrusion alarm, Denton Rd.
1548 – larceny, Belleville Rd.
1548 – property damage accident, Ecorse Rd./

Belleville Rd.

1623 – fraud, Oak Ln.
1636 – welfare check, McBride
1730 – harassment call, Victoria St.
1833 – civil matter, Cross St.
1844 – dumping complaint, Rawsonville Rd.
1853 – retail fraud, Belleville Rd.
2009 – domestic, Assembly St.
2036 – missing person, Elwell Rd.
2108 – juvenile complaint, Sumpter Rd.
2118 – 911 welfare check, Kirkridge Park Dr.
2123 – mental subject, Kirkridge Park Dr.
2213 – domestic, Birch Dr.
2235 – intrusion alarm, Beck Rd.
2304 – domestic, Briarcliffe Dr.

Wednesday, May 6:

0009 – welfare check, Birch Dr.
0033 – 911 welfare check, E. Sadie Ln.
0141 – welfare check, Village Green Ln.
xxxx – repossession, Birch Dr.
0718 – intrusion alarm, Belleville Rd.
xxxx – repossession, Jeremy Rd.
0823 – PPO violation, S. I-94 Service Dr.
0902 – intrusion alarm, Rawsonville Rd.
0901 – suspicious person/vehicle/circumstances, Hayes St.
0910 – animal complaint, Richards Run
0915 – property damage accident, Tyler/Belleville
1048 – ordinance violation – all 7300 MICR codes, Andover Dr./Stratford Dr.
1056 – ordinance violation – all 7300 MICR codes, Rolan Meadows Dr.
1132 – ordinance violation – all 7300 MICR codes, Chatsworth Dr.
1135 – ordinance violation – all 7300 MICR codes, Clayton Rd.
1154 – welfare check, Quirk Rd.
xxxx – private property impound, Van Born Rd.
1233 – animal complaint, Fret Rd.
1302 – property damage accident, Rawsonville Rd. / S. Grove Rd.
1326 – animal complaint, S. I-94 Service Dr.
xxxx – private property impound, Belleville Rd.
xxxx – private property impound, Belleville Rd.
1400 – animal complaint, W. Huron River Dr.
1403 – ordinance violation – all 7300 MICR codes, Belleville Rd.
1406 – civil matter, Ecorse Rd.
1552 – retail fraud, Belleville Rd.
1613 – property damage accident, Van Born Rd. / Sheldon Rd.
1612 – personal injury accident, Haggerty Rd. / E. Huron River Dr.
1616 – retail fraud, Belleville Rd.
1617 – retail fraud, Belleville Rd.
1628 – ordinance violation – all 7300 MICR codes, McBride Ave.
1714 – mental subject, Walden Blvd.
1825 – trespassing, Belleville Rd.
1821 – juvenile complaint, Tyler Rd.
1846 – family trouble, W. Huron River Dr.
1903 – suspicious person/vehicle/circumstance,

Belleville Rd.
1904 – assist citizen, Belleville Rd.
1915 – trespassing Country Walk
1940 – traffic offense, Sumpter Rd.
2048 – mental subject, S. Ponderosa Trl.
2154 – disorderly, Assembly St.
2214 – welfare check, Tyler Rd.
2330 – suspicious person/vehicle/circumstance, Michigan Ave.
2347 – trespassing, S. Ponderosa Trl.
Thursday, May 7:
0300 – assist other dept., Oak Ln.
0729 – suspicious person/vehicle/circumstance, E.

Sadie Ln.
0807 – intrusion alarm, Parkwood Dr.
xxxx – intrusion alarm, Marlowe Ave.
0916 – assist fire dept., Ecorse Rd.
1149 – parking complaint, Country Walk
1218 – malicious destruction of property, Ironwood Dr.
1341 – civil matter, Berkdale Dr.
1349 – intrusion alarm, Haggerty Rd.
xxxx – private property impound, Denton Rd.
1505 – 911 welfare check, S. Ponderosa Trl.
1520 – intrusion alarm, Laurelwood Dr.
1620 – road hazard, Green Meadows
1629 – parking complaint, Cambridge Ct.
1653 – mental subject, Belleville Rd.
1726 – civil matter, N. I-94 Service Dr.
1737 – property damage accident, Michigan Ave. / Dellor St.
1734 – personal injury accident, Belleville Rd./E. I-94
1847 – civil matter, Cross St.
1915 – welfare check, Ecorse Rd./Michigan Ave.
2035 – suspicious person/vehicle/circumstance, Belleville Rd.
2056 – suspicious person/vehicle/circumstance, Belleville Rd.
2121 – domestic, S. I-94 Service Dr.
xxxx – private property impound, Belleville Rd.
2206 – welfare check, Martinsville Rd.
2215 – noise complaint, Ventura Dr.
2249 – family trouble, N. Ponderosa Trl.
2302 – ordinance violation – all 7300 MICR codes, S. I-94 Service Dr.

Friday, May 8:

0046 – retail fraud, Belleville Rd.
0223 – assist fire dept., Assembly St.
0243 – civil matter, S. I-94 Service Dr.
0850 – property damage accident, Haggerty Rd.
0857 – welfare check, Tyler Rd./Belleville Rd.
0910 – civil matter, Tyler Rd.
0923 – domestic, Maple Dr.
0941 – suspicious person/vehicle/circumstance, Sondra Dr.
1030 – found property/child, Tyler Rd.
1043 – animal complaint, Michigan Ave. / Rawsonville Rd.
1129 – intrusion alarm, Parkwood Dr.
1457 – suspicious person/vehicle/circumstance, Marriott Ave./Endicott St.
1608 – 911 welfare check, Kirkridge Park Dr.
1655 – intrusion alarm, Van Born Rd.
1728 – retail fraud, Belleville Rd.
1737 – leaving the scene of a property damage accident, Belleville Rd.
1929 – trespassing, Belleville Rd.
2003 – civil matter, Belleville Rd.
2102 – juvenile complaint, Coolidge St.
2202 – animal complaint, Buchanan St.
2151 – intrusion alarm, Jackson St.
2303 – welfare check, Rawsonville Rd.
2353 – suspicious person/vehicle/circumstance, Martinsville Rd.
2349 – welfare check, Rolan Meadows Dr.

Saturday, May 9:

0036 – noise complaint, Belleville Rd.
0152 – noise complaint, Westlake Cir.
0305 – welfare check, N. I-94 Service Dr.
0508 – intrusion alarm, Haggerty Rd.
0524 – welfare check, Ecorse/I-275
0809 – suspicious person/vehicle/circumstance, Hawthorne Ct.
0825 – found property/child, Belleville Rd.
0838 – malicious destruction of property, Belleville Rd.
0909 – abandoned auto, Rolan Meadows Dr. / Tavistock Dr.
1134 – welfare check, Arthur St.
1151 – assist fire dept., Assembly St.
1245 – mental subject, Kirkridge Park Dr.
1329 – retail fraud, Belleville Rd.
1455 – property damage accident, Belleville Rd.
1508 – parking complaint, Belleville Rd.
1540 – road hazard, Anna Dr.
1640 – property damage accident, Belleville Rd. / N. I-94 Service Dr.
1705 – 911 welfare check, Bemis Rd.
1716 – leaving the scene of a property damage accident, Belleville Rd./W. I-94
1733 – PPO violation, Sumpter Rd.
xxxx – suspicious person/vehicle/circumstance, Haggerty Rd.
1855 – welfare check, W. Huron River Dr.
1940 – threat, Country Ln.
1950 – threat, N. I-94 Service Dr.

1948 – suspicious person/vehicle/circumstance, S. I-94 Service Dr.
2025 – intrusion alarm, Rawsonville Rd.
2026 – welfare check, S. I-94 Service Dr.
2039 – noise complaint, Savage Rd.
2138 – domestic, Assembly St.
2207 – property damage accident, S. I-94 Service Dr. / Denton Rd.
Also, on this log are 109 traffic stops, 12 of which are on the I-94 and I-275 freeways.

Belleville Police Dispatch Log

Sunday, May 3:

0014 – assist other dept., W. Columbia Ave.
0603 – intrusion alarm, W. Columbia Ave.
1128 – suspicious person/vehicle/circumstance, Main St.
1235 – animal complaint, W. Columbia Ave. / High St.
1404 – intrusion alarm, Bay Pointe Dr.
1937 – assist fire dept., Main St.
2052 – suspicious person/vehicle/circumstance, South St.
Monday, May 4:
0421 – suspicious person/vehicle/circumstance, Owen St.
0841 – suspicious person/vehicle/circumstance, S. Edgemont Ave.
1218 – juvenile complaint, High St.
1329 – suspicious person/vehicle/circumstance, W. Columbia Ave.
1345 – misc. complaint, W. Columbia Ave.
1413 – animal complaint, E. Huron River Dr. / Madelon St.
1458 – ordinance violation – all 7300 MICR codes, South St.
1940 – suspicious person/vehicle/circumstance, Main St./Third St.
Tuesday, May 5:
0920 – suspicious person/vehicle/circumstance, Victorian Ln.
0950 – civil matter, E. Columbia Ave.
1143 – juvenile complaint, Owen St.
xxxx – vehicle lockout, Sumpter Rd.
1405 – harassment call, Roland St.
1420 – private property/property damage accident, W. Columbia Ave.
1541 – civil matter, Charles Ct.
1716 – road hazard, E. Columbia Ave./South St.
1926 – welfare check, Menlo Park Dr.

Wednesday, May 6:

1122 – civil matter, Charles St.
1408 – harassment call, Roland St.
1414 – suspicious person/vehicle/circumstance, E. Columbia Ave.
1545 – intrusion alarm, W. Columbia Ave. / E. Huron River Dr.
1727 – assist fire dept., W. Columbia Ave.
1729 – larceny, W. Columbia Ave.
1818 – suspicious person/vehicle/circumstance, E. Columbia Ave.
1836 – welfare check, Santa Clara St.
Thursday, May 7:
0205 – welfare check, South St.
0845 – suspicious person/vehicle/circumstance, South St./tracks
0919 – assist fire dept., Breakwater Dr.
1142 – assist fire dept., W. Columbia Ave.
1214 – welfare check, Charles St.
1317 – assist fire dept., Belle Villa Blvd.
1514 – parking complaint, Church St./Second St.
2131 – follow up by officer, South St.

Friday, May 8:

0911 – civil matter, Tyler Rd.
1209 – ordinance violation – all 7300 MICR codes, Clarence St.
1949 – assist fire dept., Victorian Ct.
2117 – private property/property damage accident, Main St.
Saturday, May 9:
0141 – intrusion alarm, Main St.
1202 – ordinance violation – all 7300 MICR codes, Victorian Ct.
1807 – suspicious person/vehicle/circumstance, Main St./Denton Rd.
1808 – suspicious person/vehicle/circumstance, Main St.
There are 75 reports on this week's log, 29 of which are traffic stops.

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Sumpter Township Police Dispatch Log

Sunday, May 3:

- 0928 – family trouble, Rustic Ln.
- 1306 – welfare check, 17000 bl. Savage Rd.
- 1356 – welfare check, Birch Dr.
- 1432 – malicious destruction of property, 47000 bl. Willow Rd.
- 1443 – death investigation, 26000 bl. Sherwood Rd.
- 1538 – civil matter, 6700 bl. Oakville Waltz
- 1804 – neighbor dispute, 44000 bl. Judd Rd.
- 1832 – welfare check, Creekside Dr.
- 2327 – noise complaint, Brookview Dr.

Monday, May 4:

- 0526 – citizen assist, 19000 bl. Sumpter Rd.
- 0612 – 911 hangup, 24000 bl. Karr Rd.
- 0817 – citizen assist, 23000 bl. Sumpter Rd.
- 0828 – welfare check, Utah St.
- 1040 – animal complaint, 21000 bl. Clark Rd.
- 1147 – fire dept. assist, Rustic Ln.
- 1245 – family trouble, Mulberry Dr.
- 1345 – 911 hangup, 22000 bl. Sumpter Rd.
- 1359 – citizen assist, 19000 bl. Haggerty Rd.
- 1407 – welfare check, 20000 bl. Martinsville
- 1445 – civil matter, Edgewood Dr.
- 1526 – welfare check, 48000 bl. Wear Rd.
- 1539 – fire dept. assist, 20000 bl. Karr Rd.
- 1741 – fire dept. assist, 19000 bl. Sumpter
- 1805 – harassment complaint, Mulberry Dr.
- 1856 – found property, Arkona Rd./Sumpter
- 2211 – 911 hangup, 17000 bl. Lohr Rd.

Tuesday, May 5:

- 0056 – unauthorized driving away of auto, Utah St.
- 1005 – damage to property, 50000 bl. Willow
- 1128 – suspicious circumstance, Knollwood
- 1131 – neighbor dispute, Rustic Ln.
- 1141 – death investigation, 39000 bl. Willis
- 1236 – fire dept. assist, 47000 bl. Wear Rd.
- 1324 – retail fraud, 25000 bl. Sumpter Rd.
- 1627 – civil matter, 23000 bl. Sumpter Rd.
- 1648 – assault, Brookview Dr.
- 1733 – welfare check, Magnolia Dr.
- 1919 – welfare check, New Mexico
- 2036 – assist other agency, Elwell/Bemis
- 2146 – fire dept. assist, 45000 bl. Judd Rd.

Wednesday, May 6:

- 0417 – suspicious vehicle, 21000 bl. Sumpter
- 0741 – family trouble, Magnolia Dr.
- 0953 – welfare check, Magnolia Dr.
- 1033 – welfare check, 17000 bl. Savage Rd.
- 1200 – follow-up investigation, 23000 bl. Sumpter Rd.
- 1237 – lost property, Rustic Ln.
- 1732 – juvenile matter, Wyoming St.
- 1803 – traffic complaint/hazard, Willow Rd. / Sumpter Rd.
- 1811 – welfare check, 44000 bl. Bemis Rd.
- 1826 – juvenile matter, Creekside Dr. / Country Club Blvd.
- 1845 – civil matter, Birch Dr.
- 1932 – follow-up investigation, 44000 bl. Bemis Rd.
- 1936 – animal complaint, Birch Ct.
- 2011 – 911 hangup, Redwood St.
- 2035 – suspicious circumstance, Nevada St.
- 2105 – fire dept. assist, Delaware St.
- 2137 – mental health call, Nevada St.

- 2210 – fire dept. assist, 20000 bl. Sumpter Rd.
 - 2323 – attempt robbery, Creekside Dr./Rustic Ln.
 - 2342 – follow-up investigation, 10000 bl. Rawsonville Rd.
 - 2345 – property damage accident, 20000 bl. Sherwood Rd.
- Thursday, May 7:**
- 0004 – welfare check, 44000 bl. Bemis Rd.
 - 0742 – suspicious person, Dakota Ct.
 - 1109 – civil matter, 44000 bl. Bemis Rd.
 - 1424 – fire dept. assist, 50000 bl. Willis Rd.
 - 1445 – follow-up investigation, 44000 bl. Bemis Rd.
 - 1726 – follow-up investigation, 44000 bl. Bemis Rd.
 - 1857 – alarm, Colorado St.
 - 1949 – fire dept. assist, Rustic Ln.

Friday, May 8:

- 0036 – family trouble, Birch Dr.
- 0849 – welfare check, Haggerty/Willis
- 1137 – mental health call, Greenmeadow Dr.
- 1158 – civil matter, Magnolia Dr.
- 1712 – 911 hangup, 8900 bl. Rawsonville Rd.
- 1723 – neighbor dispute, Birch Dr.
- 1841 – fire dept. assist, 40000 bl. Bemis Rd.
- 1857 – mental health call, Nevada St.
- 1914 – welfare check, Rustic Ln.
- 2306 – disorderly person, Delaware St.
- 2338 – suspicious circumstance, 828800 bl. Rawsonville Rd.

Saturday, May 9:

- 0155 – fire dept. assist, Delaware St.
- 0641 – juvenile matter, Knollwood Dr.
- 0904 – 911 hangup, Redwood St.
- 1106 – fire dept. assist, Virginia St.
- 1151 – civil matter, Birch Dr.
- 1442 – alarm, 8200 bl. Rawsonville Rd.
- 1600 – harassment complaint, 18000 bl. Elwell Rd.
- 1926 – animal complaint, 20000 bl. Haggerty
- 2053 – civil matter, Birch Dr.
- 2113 – 911 hangup, Hampshire Dr.
- 2123 – animal complaint, Mulberry Dr.
- 2139 – noise complaint, Delaware St.

Also on this week's log were 137 patrol checks, 55 traffic stops and 13 misc. details.

BHS at-home games

- **Thursday, May 14** – Varsity baseball vs. Detroit Country Day, 4:30 p.m.; Girls soccer vs. TBA, JV at 5:30 p.m. and varsity at 7 p.m.
- **Friday, May 15** – Boys varsity lacrosse vs. Saline, 6 p.m.
- **Sunday, May 17** – Girls flag football vs. Wayne Memorial (senior player night), 2:45 p.m.
- **Monday, May 18** – Varsity baseball vs. TBA, 4 p.m.; Varsity softball vs. TBA, 4 p.m.
- **Tuesday, May 19** – Boys varsity golf vs. Wayne Memorial, 2:30 p.m. at Willow Metro Park; Varsity softball vs. Ann Arbor Huron, 4 p.m.
- **Wednesday, May 20** – Varsity baseball vs. TBA, 4:30 p.m.; Varsity softball vs. Ann Arbor Pioneer, 4:30 p.m.

Jamie Cichowski, Athletic Secretary
Belleville High School

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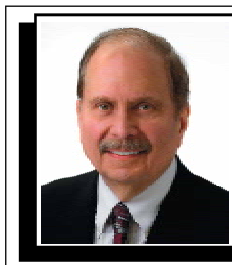
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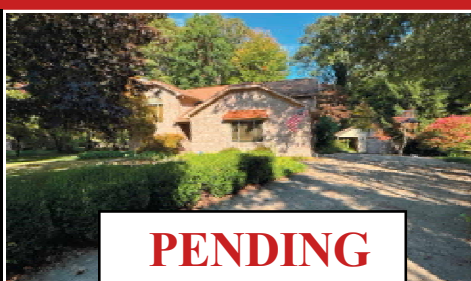
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